

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF LOCAL ASSISTANCE – M.S. 1

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December 23, 2008

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTORS

CITY ENGINEERS

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCIES

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS

Re: Race Neutral Measure Opportunities

Dear Executive Director:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has recently implemented two race neutral measures that may assist you in your race neutral implementation.

The DBE Race Neutral Implementation Agreement for Local Agencies requires local agencies to take affirmative steps to use as many of the race-neutral means of achieving Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation as possible to meet their Annual Anticipated DBE Levels (AADPLs) and to demonstrate that local agencies are administering the program in good faith. Caltrans expects that local agencies will employ race neutral measures rather than waiting passively for DBEs to participate.

To that end Caltrans, through the California Construction Contracting Program (CCCCP), is offering free training, counseling and resources to assist small businesses to be successful in bidding and winning Caltrans and local agency construction contracts. As part of your race neutral measures, you may market this program on your website to small businesses in your area. The website address for the CCCC is:

<http://www.buildcalifornia.org/>

Another race neutral measure Caltrans is implementing is the incorporation of Mandatory Pre-bid Meetings into construction contracts. Caltrans' pilot program during the past year has met with positive results; and we are strongly encouraging local agencies to follow suit.

If you have questions please contact Patrice Carroll of my staff at (916) 653-9251.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Earl Seaberg".

EARL SEABERG, Acting Chief
Division of Local Assistance

c: Olivia Fonseca, Deputy Director Civil Rights
Robert Padilla, DBE Program Manager, Civil Rights